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HALIBURTON COUNTY'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

# The Highlander

FREE

Thursday Dec 5 2013 | Issue 112

**INSIDE: BEHIND THE SCENES OF A SANTA CLAUS PARADE - SEE PAGE 19**



Photos by Warren Riley

Local talent was front and centre at the Homemade Stew concert on Nov. 30. From left are Gord Kidd, Rebecca Madamba, and Carl Dixon. See story on page 14.

## County 2014 road work to cost \$2.3M

By Lisa Harrison  
Contributing writer

The county has identified its top goals for roads, bridges and culverts for 2014 as part of both the 2014 capital road projects plan and the asset management plan (AMP) now required by the province from municipalities seeking infrastructure funding.

The county maintains 395.8 kilometres of two-lane, hard-top roads, 16 roadway bridge structures, two bridge structures on

the Haliburton County Rail Trail and 24 road culverts with a span greater than three metres.

The top three capital roads projects highlighted for work this year are County Road 648 from Dark Lake Bridge to Ojibway Road, County Road 21 at Jay Lake and County Road 13 from the landfill to Little Hawk Lake.

Total expenses for 2014 road work are listed at \$2,307,485. Over the course of the five-year capital roads project plan, costs are projected to total \$12,580,897. For the AMP,

which must cover a 10-year span, the cost for capital roads projects would be \$39,360,760.

Currently the county has identified that 17 per cent of the roads require work now. However, that 17 per cent makes up 40 per cent of the total road repair needs cost at \$15,747,945. At the level of funding in the current plan, the county would need five years to complete the work.

On the bridge and culvert infrastructure list the county has identified the Head Lake bridge on County Road 21 at Wallings Road

and the Kingscote Road culvert on County Road 10 (Elephant Lake Road) as the most critical projects for 2014.

Under the AMP, bridge projects will cost \$2,672,500 over 10 years while culvert projects will cost \$862,500. The county has applied for government funding for the Head Lake bridge project for a second time and has covered its 50 per cent portion of the projected \$1.25 million rehabilitation cost through reserves and the 2014 capital budget.

See "Plan" on page 6

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# Highlander news

## Minden sees huge drop in benefit claims

By Mark Arike  
Staff writer

The cost of employee benefits has slightly gone up for the Township of Minden Hills.

"I've sat before this council on a couple of occasions with not-so-good news, so I'm delighted to make the drive up today with happier news," Kevin Ashe, a representative for Mosey and Mosey, told councillors during a Nov. 28 meeting.

Effective Dec. 1, the monthly premium

for benefits increased from \$21,236 to \$21,263 or 0.1 per cent.

"The document shows you the increases proposed by the insurance company, which is Manulife," said Ashe. "In essence, it's a status quo proposal from them."

The increase negotiated on behalf of the municipality, said Ashe, is approximately \$300 per annum.

"It still is a sizeable expenditure for the municipality - about \$250,000 per annum."

Ashe's report revealed that there has been a dramatic reduction in the amount of paid claims for short term disability over the past three years. Between Aug. 1, 2012 and July 31, 2013, close to \$4,000 in claims were paid out, whereas nearly \$64,000 in claims were issued in 2011.

"There's been a dramatic reduction in the amount of claims from one year to the next," said Ashe, adding that a reduction in the workforce can greatly impact that total.

"There's been a small reduction in your

workforce in the last year from 37 to 35."

Minden Hills Reeve Barb Reid asked Ashe if he was aware of any problem areas that the municipality should be made aware of.

"I know you gave us very strong advice a couple of years ago about some of the things we needed to look at," said Reid. "Are there any messages you want to send?"

Ashe didn't address any issues, but said he would be in communication with the treasurer should anything arise.

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# Editorial opinion

## Adapting to change

I always stop by my home town whenever I take a road trip to northern Ontario.

More like home village, I guess you could call it.

It's a small little place tucked along Lake Nipissing, not far from North Bay. Growing up there, I remember it being a vibrant little community. The beaches along the lake were always busy during the summer and the lake was covered in ice huts during the winter. We had a pretty 'downtown' area with quaint shops and a single gas station where the attendant always knew your name.

It was a nice place to grow up, but driving through it now it's hard to recognize.

Many of the old businesses have closed down, the beaches are empty and the lake sees little use. Maybe it's because the young folks have moved away to bigger cities and towns, leaving an aging population behind with little money to support the village.

It's changed.

Communities do that. They change, and Haliburton County is changing, too.

We all know about our aging population and struggles with poverty, but those weren't always issues here. We weren't always the oldest or the poorest. Our community is always changing, and our needs change with it.

Gena Robertson, executive director for SIRCH Community Services, says the biggest needs now in our county are food, individual supports, bereavement support, and skills development. It's SIRCH's mandate to identify the changing needs in our community and find ways to address them.

They've developed several food initiatives to help feed people in the community, for example.

The organization's community kitchens – which are entirely volunteer based – will make 3,000 meals this year. These are distributed across the county by SIRCH and other community organizations. SIRCH also incorporates some of their support groups – specifically mothers –

in the kitchen programs where they get to learn to cook healthy food on a budget.

The organization is developing a garden buddy program where SIRCH will match people with gardeners to learn about growing their own food. The Gifts from the Heart catalogue dollars are used to subsidize, in full or in part, all these food initiatives.

They've also adapted to the community's need for individual support by creating the Need a Hand program. Registered SIRCH workers are dispatched to help community members with a variety of tasks, such as moving, minor home repairs, chopping wood, providing respite, cooking, and dog sitting. They provide services that community members need but struggle to access. Again, the program is partially supported by the Gifts from the Heart catalogue.

Over the last few weeks you've undoubtedly noticed The Highlander has featured several articles about SIRCH and its Gifts from the Heart catalogue. We've done that because we believe SIRCH's ability to adapt to the ever-changing needs of our community is essential to its success. As the needs in the community continue to evolve, so too does SIRCH, trying to address those needs in innovative ways.

We believe in supporting local organizations, which is why we've backed SIRCH. Through the Gifts from the Heart catalogue, we can help the organization provide its essential services to our community, and give them access to the funds they need to develop the programs our residents will come to rely upon.

This holiday season, give a Gift from the Heart. Visit [www.sirch.on.ca](http://www.sirch.on.ca) for more information, or simply put a cheque in the envelope you find in The Highlander and drop it in the mail.



By Matthew Desrosiers

## Get the message

After the flood earlier this year, the county sent a letter to the federal environment minister asking for, among other things, an independent review of what happened. After several months – so long that the original minister is no longer there – they finally received a response.

Warden Moffatt and Reeve Reid are somewhat disappointed after such a long wait, terming Minister Leona Aglukkaq's answers "a bit of fluff" and "lighter than air" respectively. The Minister's minions will be pleased at that assessment. That was their intention.

Aglukkaq's prose is an example of a very specific genre of literature known as the *ministerial letter*. I know, because I used to write them. In the early 1990s, I was working at the then-Ministry of Consumer and Commercial Relations when it was decided to close several registry offices across the province. You may remember lawyers marching in the streets, or at least chatting in the municipal office. I was the guy who got to answer all the angry letters we received.

Well, not answer them exactly. The purpose of a ministerial letter is to provide the illusion of an answer without actually providing one. It's an art, and many people are involved.

My letters would go to my director for approval, and from her to the Assistant Deputy Minister. From him it would go to the Deputy Minister and, if approved, back to me to dress up in special-coloured folders with special paperclips (I am not making this up) and other do-dads so it could go back up the chain for the Minister's signature. Of course the higher-ups weren't actually reading my letters; they have people to do that.

If, at any point in the chain of command, an error was found or a change requested, back the letter would come for me to re-write. The process could take months.

To speed things along, I'd develop standard passages that could be matched to specific complaints, paragraphs that could be mixed and matched to just about any situation. Eventually, one letter looked pretty much like any other but that had the advantage of getting them easily approved for a faster response.

Ministerial letters follow a certain format. They often begin with a trite thanks to the reader for having sent the original inquiry. The second paragraph, and sometimes third and fourth, will detail a list of accomplishments and programs only vaguely related to the question at hand but designed to convince you that you are receiving a reply from someone truly wonderful who cares more about you than they do about their own family.

After that, there will be a declaration that the government genuinely feels your pain and is deeply concerned about it. There will be references to studies and actions that may or may not have anything to do with your request but which should at least convince you that Something is Being Done.



By Bram Lebo

Of course nothing is being done, which is why it took so long to answer your letter with a disembodied response that doesn't answer any of your questions. In our case, everyone can see that water levels are far too high for this time of year and there don't seem to be plans to lower them.

In closing, there will often be an additional thanks for having brought the matter to the minister's attention (actually to the attention of the 22-year-old intern, as I was, but we figured that was implied). Throughout there will be a generous sprinkling of soothing words such as *considered, seriously, committed* as well as the usual nonsense of *engagement, stakeholders*, and my personal favourite: *transformation*. There will be no phone number or email address – think of it as a gold sovereign tossed to you, the wretched urchin, as the emperor passes by, rather than a genuine invitation to converse.

When my classmates and I were all frantically applying for jobs towards the end of university, we received similarly-styled letters from potential employers. We called them FOAD letters, and I'll let you figure out the acronym for yourself when the kids are out of the room. The ministerial letter is a subset of the FOAD but even more infuriating, because potential employers owe you no explanations whereas governments, in theory, do.

It still astounds me that people are surprised to get these letters. As I alluded to last week, when you write a letter or make a presentation to someone in authority, you're accepting a power dynamic in which your standing is sub-floor. If you don't know the outcome beforehand, you've already been disses and dismissed.

How then can you get what you want? Politicians by their nature follow the path of least resistance. The only way to get them to move is to make another location more comfortable than the one they're in now, which can be achieved by making the status quo very uncomfortable. Often that can be done with credible threats to their reelection chances or, failing that, more substantial disruptions in the nature of protest and legal action.

That kind of escalation tends to make polite people cringe. Being polite, they prefer to practice the art of gentle persuasion, an invariably losing strategy as I suspect our MP has now realized.

That's because the ministers and their minions play a different game. They're not polite – they just sent you a FOAD letter – so kind appeals are fundamentally futile. Our choices are therefore to be polite and ignored, or to move out of our comfort zones and try to get some satisfaction.

Until we understand and accept that reality, we're just wasting our time.

### HALIBURTON COUNTY'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER TheHighlander

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# Letters to the editor

## Not much support for fence

*Dear editor,*

I am writing in response to your article about the fence in Irondale (see "Irondale wants fence to contain community events", The Highlander, issue 110, pg. 10).

Let me start by saying that your title is misleading. It implies that the people of Irondale want this fence when in fact it is only one family that wants it. The many events Jean Neville alludes to is in fact a two-day ball tournament that takes place once a year, during which they insist on parking half a dozen vehicles on the privately owned adjacent property. The

only confrontation to take place happened when a committee member shook a pair of wire cutters in the land owner's face and threatened to have Minden Hills build a fence on his property.

To those people not familiar with the community centre in Irondale I would like to point out that a paved public road also runs adjacent to the property, yet no one parks along it, and they fence off the property belonging to the community centre so that no one can park there either.

**Donna Hancock**  
Whitby

## Winners donate to food bank

*Dear editor,*

We were wondering if you could put a note of recognition to Linda and Neil Cutler. They participated in a 50-second shopping spree at Foodland. They gathered in excess of \$500 in foods and meat which they then donated to the

Minden Food Bank. I thought it would be special if they were recognized for their thoughtfulness and generosity towards the Minden Food Bank.

Thanks in advance for your assistance.

**Joanne Barnes**  
Manager, Minden Food Bank

# LETTERS

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## Winter warmers

For the first couple of winters that I lived in Canada I revelled in the frigid temperatures, the wondrous white landscapes and even the chore of shovelling the driveway. I loved the winter months and the dramatic change that they brought. If the truth be known I guess I still do.

One of the things that I especially liked to do was step out for a walk and look for signs of nature: the track of a deer or fisher; the sight of a squirrel all puffed up and huffing against the cold; the sound of the blue jays and chickadees at a bird table. But, try as I might, there was one species that always eluded me on my winter walks. I was never able to catch sight of the elusive snow bird.

My imagination ran wild with images of some slender white creature, its feathers the exact colour of the snow, its beak a berry red, its feet and eyes brown-black like the branches of a winter spruce. I wandered forest and marsh, lakeshore and hilltop. I even snuck into gardens and spied on neighbours' bird tables but to no avail. I neither saw the bird nor heard

what I imagined would be its hauntingly beautiful song. The call of the snow bird never once blessed my ears. Or so I thought.

Like many an amateur ornithologist before me I was blinded by my prize and failed to see my quarry right before my eyes in Haliburton, in fall, before the snows arrived. It actually took a trip down south, a family holiday rather than some crazed bird spotting jaunt, for me to find the true habitat of the snow bird. And I have to say that this snow bird is less of a chorister and more of a clucker; more puffed up and waddling than slender and sleek. You've known all along haven't you but to me the idea of winter sun is a new thing, just as the term 'snow bird' is an addition to my vocabulary that I won't be banding around in ornithological circles anymore.

Yes folks, I'm down south right now. I'm sunning it up while you are freezing your nuts off (I'm talking about squirrels here, obviously!). I've never been on a winter holiday before, apart from coming to Haliburton before I immigrated. But

## Photo of the week



Photo by Stephanie Jones

A gray jay on his perch.

## TheOutsider



**By Will Jones**

coming to Haliburton in winter is hardly a holiday for you, is it. You probably think I'm completely mad for doing so but to an Englishman the crisp white snows of Canada are, or were, a fine holiday. Tis only now, in my fourth winter here, that I can begin to appreciate why these 'birds' fly south at the first hint of snow.

And so, here I sit on a beach in the Caribbean. It is almost too hot to move but alas I have to. Hold on a moment... There we go, got it. Just flip the lid... Ahhhh, that's better. Beer really does taste better in the sun.

I only have one week of this torture, unlike the vast majority of 'snow birds'. If my research is correct flocks of them fly down in November and don't return to Canada until March or even April, and now here in the heat they are all around me. They surround me on all sides. I can barely move for bumping into one of these ungainly creatures. Their plumage is a gaudy mix of bright colours; their calls a cacophony of hacks, croaks, cackles and groans. Many are heavy set and flatulent but all seem to be in fine form, strutting

around in the sun.

It's alright for some, eh!

Now, spotting the 'snow birds' was my goal but a journalist's work is never done and so while I'm down

here soaking up the beer, sorry, I meant to say sun, I aim to catch sight of another species. I'm told there are ostriches on the island and, that if fleet of foot and quick of hand, I might see and even ride on the back of one. Yes, you read that right. But I can't digress more as yet and if this is true it is definitely fodder for another missive from yours truly. For now, I have to go back to studying the habits and idiosyncrasies of the 'snow bird'. I must stay still, keep vigilant and be sure to ensure that my disguise doesn't give me away.

Talking of disguises... "Lovely wife of mine, could you rub some more sunscreen on my back and crack me open another cold one, please."

# Highlander opinion

## Eye on the street: *Did the cold and early winter take you by surprise?*



**Gloria Beggs**

Haliburton

No. It just gets cold gradually and it just gets dark earlier. I guess I was ready. It happens every year.

**James Lee**

Tory Hill

Yes and no. Around here the weather changes so much. It does seem to be a bit early. Nothing we can do about it.



**Kevin Bryant**

West Guilford

Kind of did get me by surprise. It was a wet summer and it just jumped into winter.



**Tara Smyth**

Haliburton

Not by surprise. However I am hoping that we will get a reprieve. Snow shovel is by the door and I am ready to go.



**Vince Evola**

Haliburton

A little bit yes, and I did not get some of my work done, stuff that I should have had finished. It is a problem when winter comes early.

*Photos and interviews by Walt Griffin*

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## Plan will track infrastructure

Continued from page 1

The requirement of an AMP to receive funding was announced in 2012. The province provided some funding to help municipalities prepare them. Staff began with the county's two greatest assets, roads and bridges, along with large culverts. Other assets such as buildings, equipment, vehicles, and smaller culverts will be added in subsequent years until the full asset list is covered by the AMP in 2017.

The county uses a variety of funding methods to cover road and infrastructure costs, including 'pay as you go' (saving ahead of the work), 100 per cent debt financing (which has a higher cost due to interest), drawing down reserves (which must at

some point be replenished) and third party contributions such as senior government funding.

The county only uses debt financing for its portion of costs when funding is provided by a senior government, which leaves the county with greater borrowing capacity when a large funding opportunity becomes available, such as the latest one applicable to the Head Lake bridge.

Staff report that in rural eastern Ontario, operating expenditures have risen much faster than the tax base that supports them, and that local evidence suggests costs for materials have risen "well beyond" the Consumer Price Index over the past 10 years. To sustain targeted service levels for roads and structures over the next 10 years, based on 2013

capital spending levels plus a two per cent increase each year, the county would have a shortfall of \$1.2 million without additional funding.

In addition, these figures do not account for emergency requirements that can immediately move a less critical project up to "now" status, such as repairing washouts caused by flooding.

The county has been partnering with the four lower tier municipalities on combined contracts and continues to look for other efficiency strategies and for funding opportunities.

The 2014 capital road projects report will be referred to 2014 county budget discussions. Council adopted the AMP at its Nov. 27 regular meeting.

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# Highlander news



File photo

The 2013 Minden Flood left whole parts of the town under water.

## More flooding and TSW letter spark county council discussion

By Lisa Harrison  
Contributing writer

More flooding in Minden and a "lighter than air" letter from the Ministry of the Environment (MOE) has sparked another round of discussion by county councillors about the Trent-Severn Waterway (TSW).

"It's a bit of fluff, that letter," said Warden Carol Moffatt. Minden Hills reeve Barb Reid agreed, calling it "lighter than air".

They were referring to the MOE response to Moffatt's letter in May to then-Minister Peter Kent. The letter supported Kent's undertaking "an arm's length review of the water management decisions taken by the Trent Severn Waterway's staff before, during and after recent floods along the Gull and Burnt Rivers" as called for by local MP Barry Devolin.

The Honourable Leona Aglukkaq now has the MOE portfolio. After

apologizing for the delay in response, Aglukkaq acknowledged the hardships faced by those affected, but primarily outlined usual TSW and Parks Canada practices. She wrote that Parks Canada contracted AECOM in July to study the Gull River flood, and that the recommendations from the review will "inform decisions by Parks Canada in future events" and the report findings will be communicated.

"To be fair to Minister Aglukkaq, I'm not sure she's actually aware of what happened last spring in Minden," Reid told councillors at the regular council meeting on Nov. 27. "She wasn't in that portfolio back in the spring and I'm sure she is unaware that parts of the River Walk have been flooding for four weeks now. So this is why the conversation came up, is to somehow get to the Minister and bring her up to speed on the consequences of some of the operational divisions [in the TSW]."

"The fall draw-down really wasn't

a draw-down at all, and it's having consequences now and we're very concerned about the consequences that it's going to have next spring."

Dysart et al reeve Murray Fearrey agreed, saying the Burnt River was also higher than usual. Moffatt said Kushog Lake residents had "pumps at the ready" because the water was "seconds away from coming in again". Minden Hills deputy reeve Cheryl Murdoch said she had never seen water coming over the Horseshoe Lake dam in November "and it's been running for three weeks".

Moffatt noted that a contract document exists among several relevant provincial bodies, including Parks Canada, that includes a call for Minden Hills to be "at the consultation table for the management of that dam and I don't think Minden Hills has ever been invited to that table".

Council agreed to send a letter to the Minister requesting a meeting, with a copy to Devolin.

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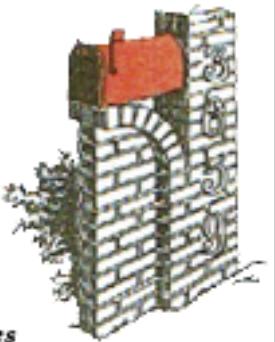
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**OPEN NIGHTLY**  
**FOR DINNER**  
**6-8PM**

**CALL**  
**705-457-2350**

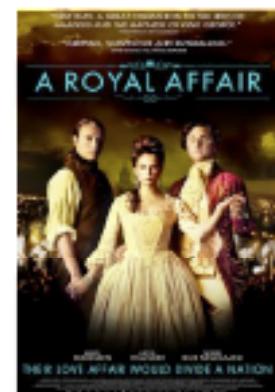
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Only 5 minutes from Haliburton  
Closed Saturdays until December 21

**WHERE MEMORIES BEGIN!**

### THOSE OTHER MOVIES

Presents

#### A ROYAL AFFAIR



The true story of how a young queen, married to an insane king, starts a revolution with her lover that changes a nation forever.  
Starring Mads Mikkelsen (subtitles)

Tuhs, Dec 12/13

2 shows - 4:15 & 7:15

Tickets \$8.00 at the door

The Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton Village

Coming Next: Thursday, Jan 9/14 - PARKLAND  
Thursday, Feb 13/14 - BLUE JASMINE (T.B.C.)

More Info: [www.haliburton-movies.com](http://www.haliburton-movies.com)

**4Cs**  
**FOOD BANK**

**TO: Haliburton County Families In Need of Assistance at Christmas**

To promote fairness and efficiency for all concerned, please note our distribution policy:

Requests for assistance must be made by the recipient between Monday, November 25 and Saturday, December 7, 2013

Call 705-457-3331 between 10 am & 2 pm.

There will be no deliveries made by the 4Cs.

Pick up date is Thursday December 19, 2013 10am to 3pm at The 4Cs Food Bank Wilberforce Fire Hall Cardiff Community Centre

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**FIREPLACE REBATE EVENT**  
Effective October 1, 2013 to January 31, 2014  
SAVE UP TO \$500\*  
\*IN REBATES ON SELECT NAPOLEON QUALITY FIREPLACES

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Division of Walker's Heating & Cooling Systems

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# INFORMATION PAGE

7 Milne Street, PO Box 359  
Minden ON K0M 2K0

Telephone: 705-286-1260  
Fax: 705-286-4917 [www.mindenhills.ca](http://www.mindenhills.ca)

**In case of emergency please Dial 9-1-1. For all other municipal emergencies please call 1-866-856-3247**

## Fire Calendar Winners

**Week of December 2**  
Corey Casey and Pat Haseman

## Meetings and Events

**December 11**  
10:00 am, Finance Advisory Committee meeting, Boardroom

**December 12**  
9:00 am, COTW/Regular Council meeting, Minden Council Chambers (public session 10:00 am)

## NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills proposes to consider, and if deemed advisable, to pass at its regular meeting to be held in the Municipal Council Chambers at 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario, on Thursday, December 12, 2013 at the hour of 10:00 a.m., by-laws to stop up, close and convey those parcels of land more particularly described as follows:

1. File No. SRA-13-06  
Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Bob Lake, lying in front of Lot 10, Concession 1, geographic Township of Anson, designated as Part 1 on a Plan of Survey 19R-9561, registered October 29, 2013.
2. File No. SRA-13-01  
Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Big Bob Lake, lying in front of Lot 9, Concession 2, geographic Township of Anson, designated as Part 2 on a Plan of Survey 19R-9562, registered October 30, 2013.
3. File No. SRA-11-08  
Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Canning Lake, lying in front of Lot 17, Concession 1, geographic Township of Minden, designated as Part 1 on a Plan of Survey 19R-9567, registered November 8, 2013.
4. File No. SRA-13-02  
Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Big Bob Lake, lying in front of Lot 9, Concession 2, geographic Township of Anson, designated as Part 1 on a Plan of Survey 19R-9562, registered October 30, 2013.

The above noted plans of survey are available for inspection in the Building and Planning Department located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario during regular office hours.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that before passing the said by-laws at the meeting to be held at the time and place noted above, the Council shall then and there, hear in person or by his or her counsel, solicitor or agent, any person who claims that his or her land will be prejudicially affected by the said by-laws and who applies to be heard.

DATED AT THE Township of Minden Hills, this 28th day of November, 2013.

Adam King, M.R.M  
Planning Administrator



MINDEN HILLS  
Cultural Centre  
MINDEN HILLS CULTURAL CENTRE  
Agnes Jamieson Gallery ~ Minden Hills Museum  
& Pioneer Village ~ Nature's Place  
705-286-3763 • 178 Bobcaygeon Road  
[www.mindenculturalcentre.com](http://www.mindenculturalcentre.com)

## ***Agnes Jamieson Gallery***

2013 Annual Members' Show

Nov 12 to Dec 21, 2013

Opening Reception Nov 16 at 1 pm

In honour of Dr. Agnes Jamieson's wish, this is a non-juried opportunity for members of the gallery to show their most recent artwork. Members are allowed one piece per media that they work in. Entry forms can be found on the Cultural Centre website. Visitors are encouraged to vote in the People's Choice Award, selecting one of their favourite pieces. Winning artists will receive their next year's membership free. New this year is the winner will also be given a 'mini' exhibition the following year at the Members' Show. This year Harvey Walker will be exhibiting his work.

**Harvey Walker**  
Nov 12 to Dec 21, 2013  
at the Members' Show

Walker was the People's Choice Award winner two years ago. At this Members' Show, he has been given the opportunity to exhibit his work, as will other winners of this award each year.

*My goal is to connect to the viewer through painted images that capture the eye and move the spirit. I work with oils on canvas and focus on the effects of ever-changing lighting conditions in the natural world. - H. Walker*

Harvey Walker's studio is in a gracious 140 year old home in Port Perry and he also spends time in Haliburton County capturing the rugged beauty found there. He continues to grow as an artist by studying at the Haliburton School for the Arts and attending workshops. He shares his love for painting by teaching beginners oils at the Meta 4 Gallery in Port Perry.

## Public Skating

No public skating  
on Sunday Dec 15  
due to the  
Silver Stick Tournament

## Employment Opportunity

We are currently seeking a Director of Community Services for the Township of Minden Hills

Qualified applicants are invited to submit a letter of application together with a detailed resume of education and experience by 12:00:00 noon Friday, December 20, 2013 to:

Clerk's Office, 2nd floor  
Township of Minden Hills  
7 Milne St, PO Box 359  
Minden, ON K0M 2K0

Attention: Nancy Wright-Laking, B.A., CMO, CMMIII,  
CAO/Clerk/EDO  
Fax: 705-286-4917  
Email: [sprentice@mindenhills.ca](mailto:sprentice@mindenhills.ca)  
Website: [www.mindenhills.ca](http://www.mindenhills.ca)

Detailed Position Descriptions can be obtained from the Clerk's Office, 2nd floor or by contacting the Administrative Assistant at 705-286-1260 ext. 313 or at [sprentice@mindenhills.ca](mailto:sprentice@mindenhills.ca)

## Holiday Safety Tips from the Fire Chief

With the holiday season fast approaching, we would like to share the following safety tips to help ensure everyone has a safe and happy holiday.

### Trees

1. When purchasing an artificial tree, look for the label "Fire Resistant." Although this label does not mean the tree won't catch fire, it does indicate the tree will resist burning and should extinguish quickly.
2. When setting up a tree at home, place it away from fireplaces and radiators. Because heated rooms dry live trees out rapidly, be sure to keep the stand filled with water. Place the tree out of the way of foot traffic and do not block doorways.

### Lights

1. Indoors or outside, only use lights that have been tested for safety by a recognized testing laboratory, which indicates conformance with safety standards.
2. Check each set of lights, new or old, for broken or cracked sockets, frayed or bare wires, or loose connections, and throw out damaged sets.
3. Turn off all lights when you go to bed or leave the house. The lights could short out and start a fire.

### Decorations

1. Use only non-combustible or flame-resistant materials to trim a tree. Choose tinsel or artificial icicles of plastic or nonleaded metals. Lead materials are hazardous if ingested by children.
2. Never use lighted candles on a tree or near other evergreens. Always use non-flammable holders, and place candles where they will not be knocked down.

### Fireplaces

1. Do not remove fireplace embers or ash, or if you do, place them in a metal container with a lid and cover them with water. Do not place them in a plastic or paper bag or other container that is not fire-resistant. Do not dispose of them indoors or close to your home or another structure.
2. Do not burn wrapping papers in the fireplace. A flash fire may result as wrappings ignite suddenly and burn intensely.

# Highlander news

## Net funding increase takes cash from county

By Lisa Harrison  
Contributing writer

The provincial government will deliver a \$120,000 blow to county finances in 2014 under the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund (OMPF), but all four lower tier municipalities will see increases.

County treasurer Laura Janke reported the county will receive \$680,100 next year versus \$800,100 in 2013. Algonquin Highlands will receive \$824,800, an increase of \$143,500. Dysart et al will see \$1,382,200, a jump of \$276,400. Highlands East's funding will grow by \$369,200 to \$1,205,700. Minden Hills will gain \$200,000 for a total of \$1,264,600.

Combined, the county and four tiers will see an increase of \$889,300 for a total of \$5,357,400.

The OMPF is the province's main unconditional transfer payment to municipalities. According to the OMPF notice to municipalities, the province is reducing payments while it assumes responsibility for funds in other areas; for example, Ontario Works (OW) and Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) payments.

Janke reported the overall increase for the county and lower tiers is due to the new Northern and Rural Fiscal Circumstances Grant. The grant is being introduced "to better target funding to northern and rural municipalities with more challenging fiscal circumstances",

according to the OMPF notice.

Regardless of the overall impact, the loss to the county is "very significant", said Janke. She explained 2014 OW and ODSP uploads do not offset it as those numbers for the county are estimated at only \$66,500. Also, given the need for continued investment in social housing in the county, she recommended those savings be turned back into social housing. However, "[unless] the loss of \$120,000 is funded through an increase in taxation and a decrease in the lower tier taxation, this will be difficult, anticipating other pressures."

Janke said the loss would result in a tax increase of just under one per cent if the county were to raise taxes to cover it. She added she did not wish to pull the \$120,000 from reserves and departments are already looking at ways to find the monies through savings.

Warden Carol Moffatt asked councillors to advise Janke as to what percentage staff could use as a target increase in preparing their 2014 budgets, taking the OMPF loss into consideration.

Councillors tentatively discussed a two per cent increase. Councillor Murray Fearrey advised council would still need to learn the education rate before making a final decision, and added most councils he has spoken with are trying to stay at two per cent.

Initial department budget drafts will come to council in December.

## Culinary tourism on the radar

By Lisa Harrison  
Contributing writer

It's full steam ahead for the county's Tourism Brand Plan as major initiatives get the green light from council.

Tourism director Amanda Ranson and her team can now proceed on several projects directly related to the new plan released in October.

Harcourt designer Crystal Image Studio was the winning bidder to design a new logo to replace the current A Natural Work of Art logo, at a cost not to exceed \$2,950.

The second year option for Yours Outdoors as managing consultant for the Hike Haliburton Festival has been approved. This means work on the next festival can begin earlier in the year, which may improve opportunities for success in drawing major advertising sponsorships.

from outside the county.

The Ontario Culinary Tourism Alliance will receive \$27,500 to help the county create a Highlands-specific plan for development and marketing of culinary tourism, an increasingly popular form of tourism world-wide.

The tourism department will apply for funding from the Ontario Ministry of Rural Affairs under the Rural Economic Development (RED) program (for branding and marketing initiatives) and a new RED sub-program called the Local Food Fund (to support the culinary tourism initiative).

Ranson will continue talks with clothing icon Roots Canada to develop a branded clothing line for county tourism.

In a related item, the tourism department will budget up to \$4,000 for advertising and in-kind support for the Dysart et al Doors Open event in 2014.

**Sir Sam's**  
Ski & Bike

**Season Opens Saturday, Dec. 7!**

Take advantage of Great Pre Christmas savings of 50% off Daily lift tickets, rental equipment and lessons up to and including Dec. 24, 2013.

We also sell gift certificates in any amount. Purchase by Dec 15, 2013 and save 10%.

Last chance to purchase Student season passes only \$395.00 if purchased by Dec 15, 2013.

Call 705-754-2298  
or email [info@sirsams.com](mailto:info@sirsams.com)

**ROTARY INTERNATIONAL**

**THIS FRIDAY**

**FREE!**

**Haliburton Rotary Community Christmas & Skating Party**

**Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013**  
**5:00 pm - 8:00 pm**  
**A.J. LaRue Arena, Haliburton**

**BRING THE WHOLE FAMILY FOR AN EVENING OF FESTIVE FUN!**

**\* Skating \* Music \* Hot Cocoa \* Pizza & Treats \* Games \* Prizes \***

**\* Presents for all the kids! \***

**\* Bring your camera for a picture with Santa! \***

**SKATING: 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm**  
**SHOOT TO WIN: 6:30 pm - 7:00 pm**  
**PIZZA & GOODIES: 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm**  
**VISIT SANTA: 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm**

**SPONSORED BY:**  
**THE ROTARY CLUB OF HALIBURTON**

**This year, get something for the art lover in your life - you!**

Use discount code "QNS7103W4ID3" before December 31 and get 10% OFF your order!

**Local • Unique • Art**

[Madeinhaliburton.ca](http://Madeinhaliburton.ca)

Discount does not apply to ticket purchases.



# Highlander business

## Paintball operation on the block

By Mark Arike  
Staff writer

After 12 years in business, the Campbell's have decided to put Screaming Eagle Paintball up for sale.

"The only reason we are having to sell is for health reasons," said Donna Campbell, who owns and operates the business in Eagle Lake with her husband Trevor.

Donna underwent back surgery in April, just one of the many procedures she has endured over the years after being injured in a serious car accident. Trevor has also battled his fair share of health problems.

"I actually have 11 screws and two rods in my back holding me together," she chuckled. "I was really, really thankful that I could work this year."

Located on a 95-acre property, Screaming Eagle Paintball is the only facility of its kind in the Haliburton Highlands. On average, the business gets 2,500 visitors annually from all parts of the world.

"It's [paintballing] a real bonding experience," said Donna.

Paintball games include capture the flag, team elimination and Fort on Fort.

Known to customers as "Mrs. Smiley" and "Mr. Strict", the two share the responsibilities of running the business. Donna registers guests while Trevor suits them up and provides safety instructions.

"We want everyone to have fun," explained Trevor. "People aren't there to hurt people."

Should the business sell, the couple has offered to provide support and advice to the



Photo submitted by Donna Campbell

A group of regular paintballers on customer appreciation day.

new owners.

"Trevor and I will provide training for anybody, we'll even work for them," said Donna.

It will be difficult for the couple to leave Screaming Eagle behind, especially since they will have to say goodbye to their loyal customers.

"I'm going to miss those people and I can't imagine not seeing them again," said Donna. "That's going to be really upsetting. It's almost like when our kids grew up out of hockey... my winter social life was gone."

But the Campbell's are looking forward to spending more time with their two sons and five grandchildren.

"I'd like to spend time with them before they think they're grandparents aren't too cool anymore," smiled Donna.

For now, it will be business as usual. Under their ownership, paintball season will start next May and run until October. All gift certificates – including those that have expired – will be honoured.

NEWS  
TIPS

Call  
Matthew at  
705-457-2900

**PADERNO**  
*Christmas Factory Sale!*  
**SAVE UP TO 74%! DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> TO 8<sup>TH</sup>!**

**71% OFF!** Our 12pc Canadiana Cookware set is made from 18/10 stainless steel and features an impact-bonded base that's safe for all stovetops of modern kitchens, including induction. Durable riveted handles, no-drip lips, oven and dishwasher safe, the Canadiana is built to last and we stand behind it with our exceptional 25 year warranty. Set includes: 1.5L, 2L, 3L saucepans, 8.5L Dutch oven, 2.5L steamer, 3L sauté pan, 24cm/9.5" ceramic non-stick frying pan, and 5 covers. List: \$649.99  
**\$269.99**

**72% OFF!** Our stainless steel 12pc dinnerware set includes plates, bowls, and more, plus a matching serving platter and a matching 24cm/9.5" ceramic non-stick frying pan. List: \$299.99. Now: \$99.99  
**\$99.99**

**65% OFF!** 25pc Silver Melamine set. List: \$399.99  
**\$34.99**

**51% OFF!** Non-stick frying pan & Sauté pan, each in red or yellow. List: \$28.99.  
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**UP TO 70% OFF!** Avonlea fry pan. Features one of the world's longest high-temperature-life coatings and are completely PFOA-free. 24cm/9.5" Avonlea fry pan. List: \$149.99. Now: \$44.99  
28cm/11" Avonlea fry pan. List: \$169.99. Now: \$59.99

**66% OFF!** 22cm non-stick, stainless steel cook with 25-year warranty. List: \$129.99  
**\$69.99**

**70% OFF!** 1L Raspberry teapot. List: \$94.99.  
**\$39.99**

**DECEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> TO 8<sup>TH</sup> ONLY AT:**

**HALIBURTON**  
Stainless 143  
107 Highland St.

**PADERNO**  


Information & dealers: 1-800-A NEW-POT or [www.paderno.com](http://www.paderno.com). Not all locations open Sunday. Quantities limited, please be early. Sale items may not be exactly as shown.

# Highlander business



## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!



Boshkung Brewing Company & Rhubarb Restaurant  
Carnarvon, ON  
705-489-4449

Anna Myers,  
Marriage & Family Therapist  
Haliburton, ON  
613-332-1726

## UPCOMING EVENTS



Tuesday, Dec. 17  
Business After Hours  
Holiday Social

Leave the details to us and treat  
your staff to a holiday party to  
remember!

Network and mingle with local  
businesses while enjoying  
decadent hors d'oeuvres,  
great door prizes and a festive  
atmosphere.

The Haliburton County Historical  
Society will be there (with cake!)  
to help us celebrate Thomas  
Chandler Haliburton's 217th  
birthday.

Chamber Members FREE  
\$10/guest or staff ticket  
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.



PineStone  
Resort, Conference Centre  
Spa and Golf Course  
PineStone Resort  
Haliburton, ON  
E-mail Lauren to RSVP  
lauren@haliburtonchamber.com

Haliburton Highlands  
Chamber of Commerce

195 Highland St. Box 670  
Village Barn, Lower level  
Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0  
705-457-4700

Drop in and say hello



## OUR DOORS ARE ALWAYS OPEN.

Ford of Canada is proud to announce the open house of Ridgewood Ford in Minden, Ontario.



Larry Myers President

This outstanding dealership has always been in the Ingman family, and the commitment to the Midland community, that began 60 years ago, lives on throughout every generation.

Ridgewood Ford has earned Ford Motor Company's highest award available to Ford Dealers for 16 consecutive years (Dealer of the Year award in 2010). Ridgewood Ford has also been a five-time recipient of the Partners in Quality Award, Ford Credit's top award — proof that when it comes to service, Ridgewood Ford is built on a legacy of strong relationships with all our customers.

Being the customer-focused dealership that it is, Ridgewood Ford never closed its doors throughout renovations. Within an entirely new aluminum exterior, the state-of-art millennium building looks clean and spacious to welcome old and new customers to step through the doors. Renovations include new flooring, countertops, colour palette and the installation of a brand new customer lounge. These changes not only give Ridgewood Ford a beautiful new look, but also provide its customers a great sales and service experience.

Join us for an open house from 3-6 pm on Friday, December 6th and help celebrate two decades of buying with confidence and driving at the same time.

Ridgewood Ford  
13900 Highway 35  
Minden, ON  
K0J 2H0  
Phone: 705-265-2840  
[www.ridgewoodford.com](http://www.ridgewoodford.com)



Ridgewood

# Highlander arts

## What if

Louise stared at the screen, puzzled. She didn't understand what she was reading. "I have apologized and explained. I think I at least deserve a response," the e-mail message stated. The sender was no one Louise knew and so she had to assume it was somehow sent to her by mistake.

But what if, she thought, it was not a mistake? What if her memory was less than she thought and there had in fact been some occurrence in the past which she could no longer recall? Nonsense, she told herself. I know what I know and I don't know this person nor of an incident to which it refers. Still it was a bit unnerving.

Leaning back in her chair, she sipped her coffee and tried to decide what to do. If she ignored the e-mail then the sender would not receive the response she (for it was a female name) was looking for. And the intended receiver would not know of the other person's efforts to connect. However Louise was a quiet conservative Canadian who hated poking her nose into other people's lives and causing them embarrassment in any way. Might not the sender of this errant e-mail be mortified beyond words to know that a total stranger had been witness to her anger and obviously hurt feelings?

Continuing to ponder, Louise moved away from the computer and decided to go for a walk to clear her head. She had been burning damp firewood in her woodstove, the result of a very wet fall and her whole house smelled like a smouldering campfire. Fresh air would be a welcome change.

The sky hung heavy and low as she trudged down the street, heading vaguely in the direction of downtown. The previous night's snowfall lay thick and wet, tugging at her boots. This was not the sparkling white winter wonderland of Christmas songs but the inconvenient and slippery grey landscape of a too early snowfall.

As she walked, she continued to consider the unfortunate e-mail. With the availability of almost instant communication people now expected almost instant response. A week could feel like an eternity. In the "snail mail" days, a slow reply could be attributed to missed pickup and delivery times, wrong days of the week, lack of stamps and any of a number of totally justifiable and understandable reasons. No longer.

It seemed to Louise as though everyone communicated via the internet. There was a great deal of information circulating everywhere,

## Down our Road

some private and some thought to be private but not, as she had discovered herself when she sat down to check her own e-mail that morning.

What if some plot was discovered, a conspiracy by powerful interests to monitor every person's internet habits, no matter how inconsequential, for the conspirators' own gains? Such as manipulation of consumer habits, mistrust of certain politicians, fact distortion to encourage hatred of particular groups or justify unlawful policies. Of course, that could never happen, thought Louise as she strolled toward the stores offering her deep discounts during their blowout sales. E-mails between people were convenient and private. No need for conspiracy theories there.

Still it bothered Louise that someone she did not know had been able to send her a very personal message. An obvious mistake, but how did it happen?

These questions were too distracting so she filed them away at the back of her mind. Life had become so complicated from a technology standpoint that she often dealt with it that way. Can't understand it so don't even try. But in that same place at the back of her mind lay a suspicion.

What if the world was becoming a place where knowledge, important and complex knowledge, was kept in the hands of a few? These few then controlled economies, politicians, countries and perhaps even the globe.

A shiver ran up Louise's spine. All these thoughts coming simply from a mistaken e-mail. She had obviously been breathing in too much wood smoke. It had affected her brain. Choosing to ignore the gigantic savings she could be enjoying in the neighbourhood drug store, Louise walked down to the lake and looked out over its now frozen expanse. Joni Mitchell's lyrics "I wish I had a river" ran through her mind.

Later she e-mailed a reply to the sender of the mysterious e-mail. "I think you meant this for someone else," wrote Louise. The reply came almost immediately. "Yes. Sorry." She could almost feel the embarrassment in those two words.



By Sharon Lynch

**Brutalizing the snow**

**Show Winter Who's Boss**

**For a limited time, starting from \$699**  
Plus freight and PDI

**HONDA**  
Power Equipment

**60**  
Celebrating 60 Years

**Minden Hills Rent-All**

**Corner of Hwy 35 & Water Street**

**705-286-3047**

[www.mindenhillsrentall.com](http://www.mindenhillsrentall.com)

## RADIO BINGO!

**This could be you!**

Join us Tuesdays at 6 pm for an hour of fun. Cards are just \$6 and can be purchased at retail locations across Haliburton County and Canoe FM.

License #M647517



Dawn bought her sheet at Canoe FM Radio. Dawn won \$500 on November 19.

**100.9 Canoe FM**

**www.canoefm.com**

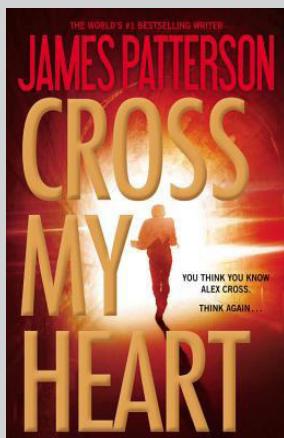


**The voice of the Haliburton Highlands**

# Highlander arts

## Haliburton County's Hot Reads

The following are popular new additions to the Haliburton County Public Library's collection this week.



### HCPL's TOP FICTION

1. *Cross My Heart* by James Patterson (regular and large print)
2. *The Hero* by Robyn Carr
3. *The Signature of All Things* by Elizabeth Gilbert (regular and large print)

### HCPL's TOP NON-FICTION

1. *A Cruel and Shocking Act: the secret history of the Kennedy assassination* by Philip Shenon
2. *The Second Chance Dog: a love story* by Jon Katz
3. *The Butler: a witness to history* by Wil Haygood

### HCPL's TOP JUNIOR TITLES

1. *Antigoddess* by Kendare Blake (YA)
2. *Magic Tricks from the Tree House* by Mary Pope Osborne (JNF)

### AUDIO and VIDEO at HCPL

1. *We're the Millers* (DVD)
2. *Critical Mass* by Sara Paretsky (Book on CD)

### LIBRARY NEWS

The Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library will be holding their Friendly Christmas Sale in the Dysart Branch from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 7 featuring their beautiful book baskets.

There will be children's crafts throughout December at our Dysart, Minden, and Wilberforce branches. Please check with your local branch for details.

**HALIBURTON COUNTY INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER**  
**TheHighlander**

*Merry Christmas*

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**

Publication Dates - December 12 & 19

**SPECIAL OFFER – Book both weeks and get the second at half price!**

Copy deadlines  
December 12 edition: December 9  
December 19 edition: December 16

Offer applies to regularly-priced Christmas ad bookings made after December 1, 2013.

**CALL  
WALT OR  
HEATHER AT  
705-457-2900  
TO BOOK**



◊ Pregnancy tests ◊ Caring, one-on-one support ◊ Maternity items ◊ Diapers & formula ◊ Baby and children's clothes to size 4 ◊  
Ongoing support for parents ◊ Post abortion support ◊ Nurturing Fathers Program ◊ "Time Out" evenings for moms/women



Highlands Community  
Pregnancy Care Centre

Help Us Make a Difference

[www.HaliburtonPregnancyCentre.ca](http://www.HaliburtonPregnancyCentre.ca)

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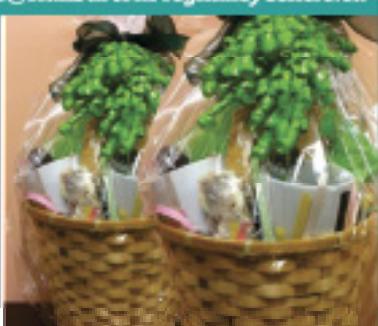
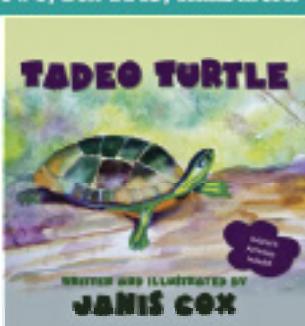
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# Highlander arts



Photo by Warren Riley

Gord Kidd with Custom Blend singing 'Time with Friends'.

## Folk society celebrates local artists

**By Warren Riley**  
Contributing writer

The music was a toe-tappingly good for a sold out crowd at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion as the Haliburton County Folk Society introduced performances by 13 local

musicians.

The auditorium was packed on Nov. 30, as the sold-out crowd heard live performances from numerous artists whose songs and melodies were showcased on a locally produced and newly released CD album called 'Homemade Stew'.

Hosted by Canoe FM's Mike Jaycock, the event proceeds will help the folk society to continue to support local musicians, providing them with opportunities to perform, sell their music and promote their talents.

Guitarist and song writer Carl Dixon was instrumental in the CD's production and played two of his songs for the audience entitled 'Part of a Set' and 'Can I Love You'.

"I'm here because I have a song on the folk society's album," he said. "I was also instrumental as the mastering engineer on the CD. I mixed a number of the tracks for the players in the studio. It was fun to do that because there are so many good players and songs on the record."

At age 54, Dixon has travelled throughout Canada, England and Australia. He eventually came to the decision to relax and continue making music.

"My goal in life is to keep playing, writing and singing songs and making people happy with my music. I get great satisfaction from using my skills and entertaining the public."

Gord Kidd is a renowned Haliburton County guitarist who teamed up with a member from Custom Blend to serenade the audience with 'Time with Friends' and

'The Candle of My Life'. Kidd expressed his passion for music and the reason he was participating at the event.

"I'm here tonight to support the folk society," he said. "It's something I can give back to the community. I have a few songs I have written and I like to perform in Haliburton and it gives me the opportunity to give something back."

As a newcomer to the folk society, 23-year-old Rebecca Madamba was thrilled at the opportunity to have two of her songs, 'Moments' and 'The One Thing' included on the Homemade Stew CD. Both songs were played and were well-received by the audience shown by an enthusiastic applause.

"In high school I became a member of the choir and that's where I really got my passion for music and I started learning my five chords on the guitar," she said.

"I worked as a curator in a café where the atmosphere included art and an open mic and I knew that that was the area I wanted to be in," she continued. "I've had that inspiration for writing and playing music since I was a little girl but I only really started playing, performing and writing music with my sister; and it went from there. And now, here I am performing at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion."

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# Highlander life



Photo by Warren Riley

Daniel Wheeler, 4, (left) and Evan Wheeler, 7, with Santa at the Haliburton Hospital Women's Auxiliary Open House.

## Santa drops by hospital fundraiser

**By Warren Riley**  
Contributing writer

Santa arrived to support the Haliburton Hospital Women's Auxiliary open house at the gift shop on Dec. 1.

The affair was full of custom gifts, art, decorations, glass work and delicacies all donated by local establishments and artists. The event was in support of the hospital's Women's Auxiliary fundraiser to purchase medical equipment and furnishings for the Haliburton hospital.

According to past-president Judy Skinner,

the auxiliary is a group of dedicated individuals whose mandate it is to assist in helping the hospital.

"Today we are promoting the auxiliary, promoting Christmas with the visit from Santa and providing a nice community service," she said. "We support the hospital through our gift shop and this year we are carrying some beautiful things."

Skinner said every penny raised goes directly to the hospital.

"This year we have raised over \$71,000 for equipment for the hospital of which some of the items were for the emergency room

and some for long-term care. In addition, we purchased a \$15,000 medical dish washer."

"We have just committed to a \$30,000 medication dispensing machine and the auxiliary is buying one of the units," Skinner continued. "We fundraise all the time. Today we have a draw for a wheel barrow (donated by Emmerson Lumber) of wine and our members have donated all the wine."

The draw was a favourite with residents and Skinner was thrilled at the number of tickets sold.

"You know, we could have sold twice as many tickets but we had to cut it off. We

had 1,200 tickets and I had somebody today asking if they could still buy a ticket. It was a really good new fundraiser for us."

According to Skinner, the next item on the list for the auxiliary is the palliative care suite.

"One of the things our members are very committed to is [when] the final approval is reached on the palliative care suite we would love to furnish it. It's important because we are an aging community up here and many of us have been through palliative care services and it's important that we support that."



Photo by Matthew Desrosiers

### Hospital foundation receives \$5,000 donation

Camp Onondaga has donated \$5,000 to the Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation. Duncan Robertson, camp director, said the camp is appreciative of the hospital's services.

Pictured above from left are Varouj Eskedjian, HHHS CEO; Dale Walker, HHHS executive director; Duncan Robertson, camp director; Blayne Saunders, maintenance manager; and Peter Oyler, HHHS chairman of the board.

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# Highlander life

## Auxiliary officers part of the team

By Mark Arike  
Staff writer

Although they have a presence at many community events along with members of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), a lot of people don't know what it is they do.

On Nov. 26, the Haliburton Highlands OPP hosted an auxiliary information seminar at the Minden detachment to inform the public about these volunteer positions and provide them an opportunity to sign up.

"We're all one team here," said Paul Potter, auxiliary liaison officer for the OPP. "We realize that without them there are a lot of events that we wouldn't be able to cover. They're certainly a very important part of our team here."

Auxiliary officers volunteer to assist the OPP in the delivery of traffic safety and community-based crime prevention initiatives and perform police duties in special circumstances, such as an emergency that officers are not sufficiently equipped to deal with.

According to the OPP's website, the program was originally formed in 1960 by Order-In-Council. Prior to that it was known as the Emergency Measures Organization.

"There are about 52 units in detachments across the province," said Potter, who explained that the local unit used to be part of the City of Kawartha Lakes' unit. "As of last year, we went on our own."



Photo by Mark Arike

Local Auxiliary officers join OPP Const. Paul Potter, front left, and Auxiliary Staff Sergeant Brad Robinson, right, at the Haliburton Highlands detachment in Minden.

There are more than 850 auxiliary members across the province who volunteer a minimum of 10 hours per month. Each officer must also complete a week-long course in Orillia and six hours of in-service training.

The auxiliary program has proven to be an excellent recruiting resource for the OPP, said Potter.

"I think at one point we were up to about 25 per cent of our new recruits were former auxiliary officers," said Potter.

But the program isn't just for soon-to-be officers. It's also great for those with full-time jobs who simply want to give back to their community while experiencing "the excitement and challenges as well as the routine and the uneventful in any tour of police duty."

Before joining the OPP, Potter was an auxiliary officer.

"I did that for three-and-a-half years and I really enjoyed it. I got a lot out of it."

Geoff Bunn and John Fountain are also finding value in the program. This past September, the two Minden residents, who coincidentally happen to be friends, became auxiliary officers.

"I thought I'd step up and join the auxiliary to get some hands-on experience," said Fountain, who owns an electronics business by day.

"I wanted to do it before I had the kids and that was seven years ago," said Bunn, a local realtor. "The timing was right now."

Both are happy that they can give back to

their community while balancing work and family life.

"It's nice to give back to the community, donate some time and help your fellow Haliburtonians out," said Fountain.

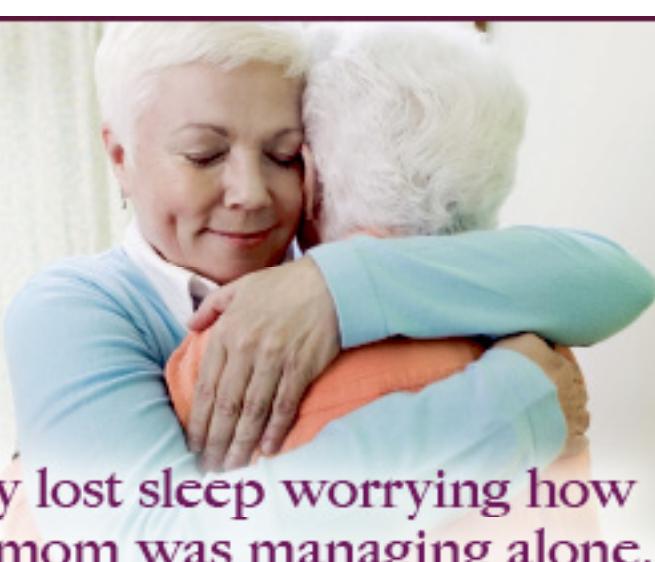
Twenty-year-old Ryan Hogg became an auxiliary officer this past March. Originally from Carnarvon, Hogg is in the Bachelor of Human Services (Police Studies) program at Georgian College.

"With law enforcement being my career choice at this point, it gives you real experience because it's hard to know whether that's something you want to do or don't want to do," said Hogg. "That was my primary reason [for joining]."

Hogg echoed Potter's comments about the exposure it gives those who want to eventually join the force.

"It gives you good exposure to the organization," he said.

To learn more about the program or to apply, visit [www.opp.ca](http://www.opp.ca) or call Potter at 705-286-1431.



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# Highlander life

## New camera club in the picture

By Matthew Desrosiers  
Editor

Glenn Springer has decided it's time Haliburton has its very own camera club.

"When I got re-interested in photography and was living in the Richmond Hill area, I couldn't find any resources to learn more, to re-learn stuff about photography," he said. "The digital era was different. What I was really looking for was to learn things like composition and stuff like that, and couldn't find any resources. I found the Richmond Hill Camera Club and that was gold."

The crowd was a bit older, but Springer soon learned age didn't matter.

"Those guys are so knowledgeable and had so much information and were willing to share things," he said. "Absolutely the best way to get into photography and learn is to be in a camera club."

Springer has been a Highlands resident for the last seven years. He said he's looked all over but hasn't found any sort of club here, apart from the odd group that goes out and shoots pictures together. In the fall, he gathered one such group of about a dozen photographers and ventured into Algonquin Park to take pictures.

"We had a dozen people that had a lot of fun shooting pictures in Algonquin Park," he said. "I got some great pictures and thought we really need to have a club up

here."

He sent out a survey through his mailing list and received 30 responses from people who wanted a club, and he hopes more will join.

"There's no 'good enough' for a camera club," Springer said. "If you have fun shooting pictures or you want to learn more about it, this is a great way to do it. What kind of people should join? Anybody who's interested in taking pictures."

Springer wants the club to have a strong online presence to reduce the need to travel. At the outset, it will meet once a month.

"People won't travel so let's have an online presence as a way to communicate," he said. "I can do that, [but] I can't do everything by myself so I'm looking for people who join the club and will participate in a way to help out with stuff like that."

One of the major functions of the club will be to host competitions.

"Photography competitions are good because they force you to get out of your comfort zone and shoot things you wouldn't normally shoot, and pay attention to details... you wouldn't otherwise," he said. "That's the strongest thing that makes your photographs improve is if you look at other people's work, compare it to yours and try to do



Photo by Matthew Desrosiers

Glenn Springer is launching the Haliburton Highlands Camera Club on Dec. 11.

better."

Already two exceptional photographers have agreed to come speak to the club. The first is Rob Stimpson, who teaches workshops, and the other is Dr. Ron Goodlin, who Springer said is one of the best photographers he knows.

"He's got some superb pictures of things that he's done, and he's agreed to come up

and speak to the club."

The Haliburton Highlands Camera Club will have its first meeting on Dec. 11 at 7 p.m. at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. Although it hasn't been finalized yet, Springer expects the annual membership dues to be around \$40. Anyone interested is encouraged to come out.

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# Highlander life



Ten-year-olds Holly Parish (left) and April Kovacs of the Minden Curling Club loaded up with beads to distribute to spectators along the parade route.

## Peek at parade prep

By Sue Tiffin  
Contributing writer

Of all the people who were nervous while busily preparing behind-the-scenes for Minden's Santa Claus Parade, Santa Claus himself was the one who was most shaking in his shiny boots.

"He's very nervous," said Santa's regional spokesman, Dick Schell, the day before the parade which took place Nov. 23. "He wants everything to go right."

Schell has volunteered to help Santa prepare for the parade for the past 18 years. He said that there's a lot more to Santa being in the parade than just riding in his sleigh.

"He has to practice his ho-ho-ho, and take his suit to the dry cleaners," said Schell. "He has to know all his reindeer, and he studies the Wish Book really hard 'cause he doesn't know what the kids are going to ask for and wants to be up on the latest toys."

Santa enjoys being in the Parade so much, that he contacted Community Development Coordinator Elisha Weiss to volunteer.

"As we were planning, we had to make sure to get in touch with Santa," said Weiss. "But he came to me."

Weiss has been in her role as coordinator since May. She credits help from the parade planning committee and the Lion's Club with helping her keep her cool.

"I think that's making me more confident and calm," she said. "Knowing that I'm not alone."

She said it also helps that the committee had

put so much time into planning. That began in September with liability waivers becoming available for parade attendees and discussions about the theme.

On the morning of the parade, Weiss was up early to take care of last minute details and be sure she had checked everything on her to-do list (no word on whether she checked it twice).

Cathy Fisher was in the parking lot trying to keep costumes on her animals. She has been a part of the parade for more than 20 years. She first joined the parade when her kids were small. Now, she does it alone if she has to.

"I think the parades need people to keep it going," she said. "If people aren't there, the parades can't happen."

So Fisher makes sure she's there with her mini horses. It can take up to 30 hours to get a decent costume prepared for the animals. But for her, it's worth it. She says people call her over to take pictures with the horses, and she always takes a moment to oblige.

"That's what makes the parade," she said. "Those little kids who are so excited."

The most important part of parade preparation, for Fisher, might be dressing appropriately for the weather. But, "even if you're cold, you just keep walking and waving and smiling," she said.

Weiss, meanwhile, was happy to see that the weather had turned out better than was forecast and that parade entrants were filled with spirit.

"The parade is about bringing your family out, spending the day with your family, and making some memories," she said.

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# Highlander sports



Photo by Warren Riley

Sydney Cameron gets a break away against the Fenelon Falls Falcons.

## Red Hawks shut out Fenelon 4-0

By Warren Riley  
Sports writer

It was a sweet feeling for the Haliburton Highlands Secondary School girls Red Hawks hockey team when they shut out the Fenelon Falls Falcons 4-0 at the Haliburton A.J. LaRue Arena on Dec. 3.

The first period ended scoreless in an end-to-end battle. The Red Hawks were determined to take advantage of their superiority and get the first goal. Goalie Connor Marsden deflected six sure goals denying the Falcons any chance of scoring and taking the lead.

In the second period, a goal by Red Hawk's

Sydney Cameron at 9:42 went between the pads of Falcon's goalie Laura O'Neill and her team never looked back. Two more goals were scored less than two minutes apart for the Red Hawks, making the score 3-0 for the home team. The Falcons seemed to lose their drive and never recovered.

Adding insult to injury, the Red Hawks added another goal at the 10:53 mark in the third period ending the game 4-0. Penalties were few with four minor infractions called. One penalty went to the Red Hawks and three for the Falcons.

An outstanding game was played by Red Hawk goalie Marsden who shut down the Falcons with 17 saves.

### Haliburton County Red Wolves, Nov. 20

#### Men

1<sup>st</sup>: Luke Shapiera – 150  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Russell Whetstone – 148  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Brandon Bailey – 134

#### Ladies

1<sup>st</sup>: Robin Fletcher – 235  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Dawn Piercy – 120  
3<sup>rd</sup>: Skylar Pratt – 115

#### Thursday league, Nov. 28

##### High single flat

Gloria Wagg – 265  
Ron Cummings – 238

##### High single with handicap

Gloria Wagg – 295  
Ron Cummings – 283

### Fast Lane bowling scores

Nov 20 - Dec 2, 2013

#### High triple flat

Gloria Wagg – 639  
Ron Cummings – 633

#### High triple with handicap

Ron Cummings – 768  
Gloria Wagg – 729

#### High average

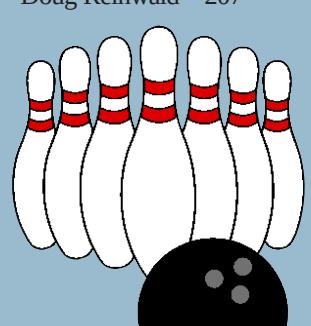
Ron Cummings – 190  
Gloria Wagg – 189

#### Monday league, Dec. 2

Nancy Hughes – 246  
Rick West – 290

#### High single handicap

Nancy Hughes – 298  
Rick West – 307



# Highlander sports

## Dollo's Foodland Peewee A

Submitted by Larry Bukta

Despite the absence of goals it was an exciting contest at the Minden arena on Saturday as the Dollo's Foodland Peewee A fought Huntsville to a 0-0 draw.

Action was end to end with the Storm having an edge in puck possession putting pressure on Huntsville in their end for extended periods. The Storm took a few more penalties than Huntsville but always managed to kill them and not allow much in the way of scoring chances to the opposition. Mention should be made to the three defencemen, Shawn Walker, Ryan Hall and Miki Bukta, as well as Lucas Haedicke, who played hard on the penalty kill. They prevented Huntsville from getting any quality shots from the slot area for the whole game. Unfortunately Huntsville shut down the Storm offence in much the same manner except for the breakaway they gave up to Haedicke whose shot was stopped by the Huntsville goalie in the second period.

The Storm's forwards were good at stopping Huntsville's attack in the neutral zone and gaining puck possession. Our goalie, Carson Sisson, also played a great game earning the shut-out.

## Ed Smolen Dentistry Bantam A

Submitted by Tammy Smith

The Ed Smolen Dentistry Bantam A's kept their undefeated regular season streak alive this past weekend as they travelled to Parry Sound.

Saturday's game was a 4-1 victory. The teams were tied up until the end of the second period when Owen 'Smitty' Smith scored from Nolan Flood and Payton Miscio. Kyle Cooper scored two goals, assisted by Miscio and Josh Boice. Boice then finished it off with a goal of his own, assisted by Owen Patterson-Smith and Jacob Headicke. Josh Bellfleur had a solid



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game in net.

Game two on Sunday was another victory 7-2 that again started off slow. It wasn't until late in the second when we first scored but then never looked back.

## Lions Club Atom AE

Submitted by Richard Smith

As November turned the reins over to December the Lions Club Highland Storm Atom AE's continued their march towards the playoffs with another busy weekend of hockey. Saturday meant a drive across the 118 to Port Carling to face off against the Thunder, a team the Storm had handled nicely in their earlier meetings. The young Storm club looked confident at game time, maybe too confident, and this proved their undoing.

Port Carling jumped off to an early 1-0 lead catching the Highlanders off guard early in the first and shaking the Storm's confidence. It was Nick Phippen who hooked up with wingers Emma Tidey and Zach Davis for the Storm's first goal. Then, early in the second, Sterling Nesbitt fed Brendan "Big Shooter" Coumbs in the slot who spun and fired a beautiful wrist shot past the Thunder netminder. At 3:57 of the second, Jaylin 'Frosty' Frost directed a Coumbs pass to Phippen who buried it running the score up to 3-1, and leaving the Storm feeling like their work was done for the afternoon. However, Port Carling's goaltender was sharp and refused to yield another goal, allowing the Thunder to battle back with three unanswered goals to beat our Storm 4-3 in the dying minutes of the third. The team was left deflated and upset as they had let two valuable points slip away and been served a powerful lesson about underestimating opponents.

Sunday's game in Gravenhurst against the South Muskoka Bears was an opportunity to bounce back and redeem themselves. The atmosphere prior to game time was sober and quiet, altogether different from the pre-game feel in Port Carling. Winger Frost got the ball rolling and she tapped in a Phippen pass. This ignited the Storm and they began to play like their old selves. Next, defender Hunter Winder stepped up and scored on a Phippen assist. The speedy Winder aggressively tested the South Muskoka squad repeatedly jumping up into the rush and spreading out the Storm attack. Later it was Coumbs who gathered in a puck in the Bear's slot and blasted another signature wrist shot past the outstretched goalie.

Darian Willis inspired his teammates by declaring his intention to shut out the Bears. He was as good as his word. Looking like a young Tuukka Rask, his efficient, calm play corralled loose rebounds, controlled the flow of the game and thwarted the South Muskokans.

With the 3-0 win the Storm had returned to form heading into their home tournament weekend. Every player played a solid game in what was one of the most complete games they have played as a team. Well done Storm. Way to bounce back.

## Highland Storm Hockey

### Haliburton Family Medical Centre Peewee AE

Submitted by Tammy Smith

The Haliburton Family Medical Centre Peewee AE's travelled to North Muskoka this past Saturday to play the Lightning in an afternoon doubleheader. The games prior to these matches were hard fought one-goal losses but the Storm knew they could overcome the same fate this time around.

In the first game the Storm came out hard and swarmed the Lightning squad from the first puck drop. It paid off almost immediately as Colby Lambshead ripped one through a screen to make it 1-0. The goal was assisted by James Alexander and Braedon Robinson. The score remained at a standstill until the third when the Lightning tied it up but Paul Turner and Tanner Crang fed James Alexander to reclaim the lead once more. The Lightning proved resilient though and scored again less than a minute later to even it up. It was an exciting game as both teams traded several chances. Jaxson Campbell stood out again in net and made several key saves. With less than three minutes left, Robinson broke free with a wrister that slipped in to give the Storm the lead one final time. With the Lightning goalie pulled for an extra attacker there were several tense moments in the final minute but the Storm preserved to win it with a gutsy effort, 3-2.

The second game started much the same way with both teams trading several chances each. Brady Baldry got things rolling with under 20 seconds left in the first but as so often has been the case, North Muskoka stormed right back to even it up as the buzzer sounded in the first. In the second, it was the Lightning who took the lead for the first time on this day but Noah Black's shot from the point rebounded through to Alexander who banged it in to even it up soon after. It was unfortunate that penalties were the main focus of the third period, frustrating both teams. The Lightning scored on two of their many power play opportunities and the Storm were unable to recover.

### Tom Prentice's Bantam AE

Submitted by Tammy Smith

It was a strange afternoon in Port Carling this past Sunday as Tom Prentice's Bantam AE's took on the Thunder. Although the road conditions were a bit of a slippery surprise getting there, the team looked ready to continue their upward trend that has seen them getting steadily better in recent games. That is until the puck dropped.

Within the first 25 seconds the Thunder tipped one past our goalie, Ryan Hannah. Hannah has been absolutely spectacular this season but the crowd could tell almost immediately that he didn't seem himself. Three more goals were counted in the first before the Storm had their first shot on net.

In the second, the Storm seemed to settle a bit and gain some momentum back when Hannah fell awkwardly and remained on the ice. It turns out he had been sick and

was suffering from dizziness throughout the game but had valiantly attempted to stay in net for his team. It became quickly apparent that he would not be able to continue though, and the Storm were faced with the prospect of not being able to continue because they did not have a back-up on this day. The period was called early to see what could be done. With the ice flooded and the teams ready to go, forward Jon Morrison appeared in full goaltender gear to heroically take the place of Hannah. The second period continued where it left off and Port Carling faced off in the attacking zone. Within seconds, Port Carling scored two more to make it 6-0 before the ice had dried after the flood.

Most teams would have given up at this point but not our boys. Slowly but surely, the Storm picked themselves up and steadily climbed back into the game. Morrison made a few nice saves to give our boys some confidence to continue and Trevor Turner's deflection off of Matt Manning's shot from the point got our squad on the board. Carter O'Neill also assisted on the play. In the third, Ben Schmidt and Alec Stoughton forced a scramble in front that popped out to Alex Petrie and then Alex Wilbee made it 6-3 after some hard fought spade-work by Jake Bull to force the play. At this point, Port Carling were back on their heels as the Storm rally seemed more and more plausible. With under two minutes left, Trevor Turner and Stoughton forced the play and Sam Longo was rewarded with an easy tap-in. Unfortunately, our boys simply ran out of time and lost 6-4. If not for the first period the Storm dominated the game and deserve credit for not giving up despite the odds. Well done Storm! See you in two weeks at the Silver Stick Tournament here in Haliburton!

### Minden CARQUEST Midget B Girls

Submitted by Dan Marsden

The Haliburton Storm Minden CARQUEST Midget B girls took on the West Northumberland Wild in a battle for third place in the Lower Lakes Female Hockey League East division.

The Wild travelled to Haliburton for an afternoon tilt in the A.J. LaRue arena. The Storm girls focused on puck movement with improved passing and trying to engage the play in all areas of the ice. A scoreless first period held many scoring opportunities for both teams. Mid-way through the second period, Kelsey Maracle stuffed home a rebound to open the scoring with what would prove to be the game winning goal. As the second period drew to a close, Maracle notched her second goal with a nifty little deke to her background that fooled the Wild tender and gave the Storm a 2-0 lead.

Alicia McLean rounded out the scoring in the third off a nice rush that started deep in the Storm end. Three tape to tape passes later, McLean finished off the play with a drive to the net that beat the Wild goalie. The Storm won the game 3-0 with another shut-out by Connor Marsden.

# Highlander sports



Photo by Warren Riley

Front row from left to right: Jeff Wilson (RE/MAX), Carson Phillips, Pam Weiss (Century 21), Heather Phillips (RE/MAX), Chris James (Royal LePage) and Wes Lytle (Royal LePage). Back row from left to right: Andrew Hodgson (Century 21), Greg Metcalfe (RE/MAX), Anthony vanLieshout (Royal LePage), Mark Weiss, Melanie Vigrass (Century 21), John Jarvis (RE/MAX), Bill Roodenburg (Roodenburg Real Estate), Chris Smolarz (Royal LePage) and Juliane vanLieshout (Royal LePage).

## Haliburton realtors sweep for food bank

By Warren Riley  
Sports writer

When they started throwing turkeys down the ice instead of rocks, you knew it wasn't your average bonspiel.

The Minden Curling Club played host to the Haliburton Real Estate Bonspiel fundraiser for the food bank on Dec. 1. Sixteen agents attended the event.

Part of the fun was the turkey sliding competition. Carson Phillips got his turkey closest to the button to win it, but donated it back to the food bank.

The bonspiel was a complete success in the eyes of broker of record Anthony vanLieshout of Royal LePage. It raised \$630.

"We just wanted to get together as a group," he said. "We wanted to celebrate our working relationship with each other. The reality is that our board continues to grow in size. Originally, we were the Haliburton Real Estate Board and then we joined the Muskoka Board."

The size of the board all of a sudden jumped to around 350 members.

"Six months ago we joined the Orillia Board and again it continued to expand and I think [we] are about 600 members," he continued. "The Haliburton Board has again

been diluted. We were losing our individual identity at this point and we wanted to get together as a group and celebrate our relationship because 90 per cent of the properties are handled through local realtors in Haliburton County."

With an ever growing number of agents there was concern that the local agents would lose their individuality.

"We decided to get together locally in an informal way and it was also a way for us to raise some funds for the food bank. That's where it was coming from, that's the goal, that's the aim and it was just for everybody to be a part of it and have fun together."

VanLieshout was thrilled at the response received from other real estate brokers to the bonspiel idea. "We decided what we were going to do and we booked the ice time and found the availability. But right away we called our competitors and RE/MAX stepped right up to the plate right away, a first prize sponsorship, and food."

Additional brokers jumped at the chance to help.

"Chestnut Park Real Estate in Muskoka donated funding as they were unavailable to attend and so did Century 21 who said 'yes we're sponsoring and will do food as well.' Bowes and Cocks weren't able to come but

gave us a cheque for the food bank."

Although it's the first year for the bonspiel, vanLieshout anticipates holding the event on a yearly basis. "We would like to make it an annual event but we would have to see what the best timing would be. It's been a collaborative effort for sure and not just a Royal LePage thing by any means."

Vicki Sisson is the administrator for Royal LePage Lakes of Haliburton whose efforts contributed to the bonspiel's success.

"[We asked] local lawyers, lenders and home inspectors to come out and join us and make a donation. Besides the brokers and agents, additional prizes were generously donated from food establishments."

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# Highlander environment



Photo submitted by Haliburton County

Many turtles die each year trying to cross county roads. Could a turtle tunnel be the answer?

## Why did the turtle cross the road?

**By Lisa Harrison**  
Contributing writer

They've become all too common occurrences – turtles dying while crossing roads, and motorists or pedestrians risking their own lives to avoid hitting turtles or to help them cross.

The Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) and The Land Between (TLB) aim to address both problems by establishing 'turtle tunnels' in conjunction with the county roads department.

Wildlife underpasses are an increasingly popular solution to wildlife protection and safety hazard reduction across North America, according to the partners. Basically, turtle tunnels are either existing culverts or new underpasses in identified key species traffic areas, with concave fencing added to funnel wildlife through them.

The land trust, a non-profit environmental charity dedicated to protecting the county's natural heritage, will lead the project. The Land Between provides support as part of its

commitment to protect a unique ecological transition zone known as the 'Land Between' the Canadian Shield and the St. Lawrence Lowlands, including county lands.

The partners aren't alone in their concern for wildlife and human safety. The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) is supporting the project as this work is an MNR priority, according to TLB managing director Leora Berman. The Ministry of Transportation plans to invest \$180,000 in its own project to identify turtle road crossings and what to do about them, according to field biologist Paul Heaven of Glenside Ecological Services Limited. Heaven has done extensive research of local crossing areas for the Highlands project on the partners' behalf.

According to the TLB's Turtle Guardians website, turtles are an essential part of the wetlands ecosystem as they regulate water quality and fish and wildlife survival, and support human health and well-being by disposing of decaying matter. Global turtle populations have declined by about 50 per cent during the past 20 years, and seven of

Ontario's eight native species are at risk. While turtles can live for more than 250 years, they need to lay eggs for 80 years to ensure the survival of one new turtle, and most turtles killed on roads are female.

The Land Between has already provided funding for county turtle crossing signs. Working with the MNR and county roads department over the past year, the project partners have identified 10 initial candidate sites for Haliburton tunnels and hope to implement them in 2014. Those sites are existing culverts or are scheduled road improvement sites and the project will fund new, appropriate culverts there.

"If the tunnel features are installed and successful, we would be the first county in the Land Between to have an underpass," said Berman. "There are only about eight in Ontario at present; four within Ontario park lands and two in municipalities (Orangeville and Guelph)."

The Haliburton project would also be pioneering, according to Berman.

"We are looking at using the best of all

worlds: an efficient model that utilizes an existing culvert or [one] which is similar to standard culverts, so that the model is not expensive, does not require any annual maintenance and can be applied easily elsewhere."

Finally, "...if we can convince the turtles through this...fencing to go under the road and not on top of the road we may actually improve road safety" with fewer people swerving around turtles or stopping to move them, said Berman.

She confirmed the project will not involve roads department labour aside from continued consulting time. County roads staff reported the proposal "has merit from a reptile/wildlife conservation and a driver health and safety perspective" and there should be no negative impact on county roads.

Council voted to support the project and grant a licence of occupation to the proponent (the partners hope that will be the MNR) for the areas on which the fencing will be installed, and waive the \$350 licence fee.

## Province provides funding for source water protection

**By Lisa Harrison**  
Contributing writer

The province has come through with some funding for source water protection programs, and the county and two of the lower tier municipalities are eligible.

Highlands East and Minden Hills are eligible for the Source Protection Municipal Implementation Fund (SPMIF) one-time grants because they meet the four criteria for the program. These include having rural populations of 25 per cent or more and having drinking water systems that could be threatened. The county is eligible because it contains municipalities

that meet the criteria.

Algonquin Highlands and Dysart et al do not have drinking water systems but will still have to amend their official plans to incorporate elements of the Kawartha-Haliburton Source Protection Area plan, of which the county is a part.

Last year the Trent Conservation Coalition, which oversees the Kawartha-Haliburton area, and similar provincial groups developed and submitted the source water protection plans required by the Ministry of the Environment (MOE).

Plan implementation will involve land use planning, public education, road signage, regulation of activities that pose significant

drinking water threats and more.

In December, councillor Liz Daniels reported implementation estimates for Minden Hills and Highlands East over five years are \$733,000 and \$518,000 respectively. The county's estimated cost is \$90,000. The county and four lower tiers joined other municipalities in requesting provincial funding support, and it appeared at the time no funding would be provided.

County planning director Jane Tousaw said the county is eligible for \$30,000 under the SPMIF.

"We're eligible for it, and it's probably the only kick you're going to get at funding on this, and it's going to cost you a lot more

than that," Tousaw told council at its Nov. 27 meeting.

Tousaw added her discussions revealed funding eligibility was approximately \$50,000 for Highlands East and \$40,000 for Minden Hills.

She said the county and both municipalities are also eligible for a further \$15,000 each if they partner on a single approved project with a fourth municipality such as the City of Kawartha Lakes (this additional funding drops for fewer partners).

Council authorized the necessary bylaw to enter the funding agreement with the MOE.



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HALIBURTON/MINDEN AREA

## Municipality of Dysart et al

135 Maple Ave, PO Box 389,  
Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0  
(705)457-1740 [www.dysartetal.ca](http://www.dysartetal.ca)



## REDUCE – REUSE – RECYCLE

FREE tire disposal is offered at the Haliburton and Harcourt landfill sites for any size tire on or off the rim.



## LANDFILL HOLIDAY HOURS

ALL Landfills will be CLOSED on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

Regular winter hours are in effect for all other days.

Visit [www.dysartetal.ca](http://www.dysartetal.ca) for more information or contact the Municipal Office.  
(Landfill cards must be shown at the gate)

Space provided through a partnership between industry and Ontario municipalities to support waste diversion programs.

## Municipality of Dysart et al

135 Maple Ave, PO Box 389, Halliburton, ON K0M 1S0

(705) 457-1740 [www.dysartetal.ca](http://www.dysartetal.ca)



## REDUCE – REUSE – RECYCLE



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Space provided through a partnership between industry and Ontario municipalities to support waste diversion programs.

# What's on

## SHOP LOCAL

at any Haliburton BIA location this Holiday Season  
and you could WIN a trip to CUBA  
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cosmetics  
gifts  
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Thursday  
December 5  
Exclusive  
Engagement  
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**LIVE WELL WITH PHARMASAVE** Because you're worth it!  
First 20 attendees receive door prize!

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**hub & Hive**  
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★ Unique and Locally-Made Art and Fine crafts  
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Haliburton, ON K0M 1S0

**Food hub** (705) 754-0021  
Email: [thearthive@live.ca](mailto:thearthive@live.ca)  
[www.thearthive.com](http://www.thearthive.com)  
10239 Hwy 118, Haliburton, ON

# What's on



File photo

## Fleming College students wrap it up

By Matthew Desrosiers  
Editor

Fleming College's art students will have their work on display next weekend during the end-of-semester Wrap It Up exhibition.

On Dec. 14, fall semester students from the painting and drawing, blacksmithing, photo arts, fibre arts, and ceramics programs will make their art available for the public to view, and in some cases, purchase.

"It's a chance to see some emerging artists as they start out their careers," said Terri Frew, organizer for the event. "It's a chance to discover some undiscovered work, and the artists will be in attendance so it will be a chance to discuss with some new art talent their work, the state of the arts, and anything like that."

Frew said all the work in the show was created during the fall semester.

"There are around 60 students participating, so it's going to be a full house," she said.

While Wrap It Up gives the community a chance to see what's going on up at the college, it's also an opportunity for the students to gain exhibition experience.

The event takes place in the college's great hall, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Dec. 14. Snacks and complimentary refreshments will be served. Wrap It Up is free to attend.

Frew said the exhibition lines up perfectly with the holidays, and shoppers may find a gift idea at the show.

"If folks are coming with the intention to maybe purchase something, the show is cash only."



By Mark Arike

## Lattes and leg stretches

Haliburton restaurant Baked and Battered was transformed into a makeshift yoga studio on Dec. 2. The early morning event, titled "Café Yoga at Baked and Battered", was led by Lynda Shadbolt, owner of Haliburton Yoga. About a dozen yoga enthusiasts showed up to participate in the 45-minute long class which was admission by donation with proceeds going to Dusk Dances. Although the café is closed to the public on Mondays, coffee was made available to participants. Upcoming classes will be held on Dec. 9, 16 and 23. For more information call Lynda Shadbolt at 705-457-3121.

**FRI & SAT** **SUNDAY** **WEDNES**

**PRIME RIB \$24<sup>95</sup>**

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**HIGHLANDERS BAR**  
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**IRISH SESSION WITH PHIL McMAHON 4-8PM**

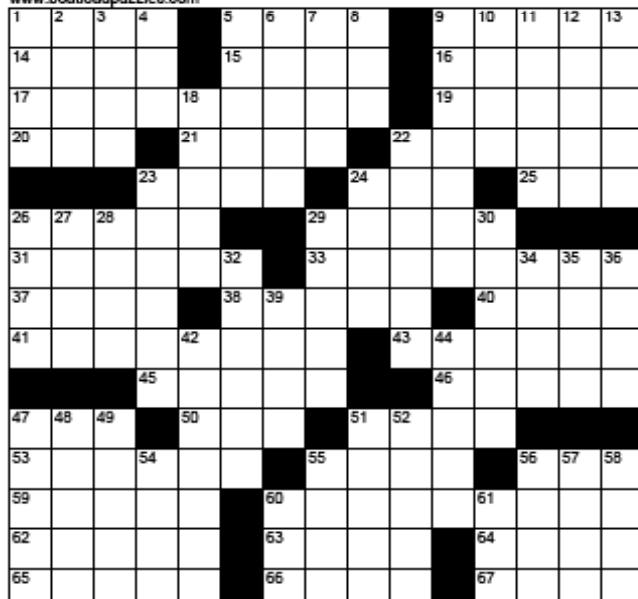
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**50¢ WING NIGHT**

 **NO COVER**

# Highlander events

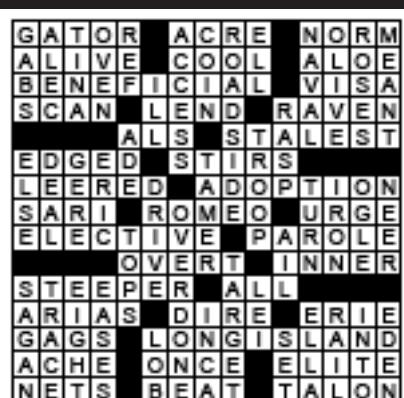
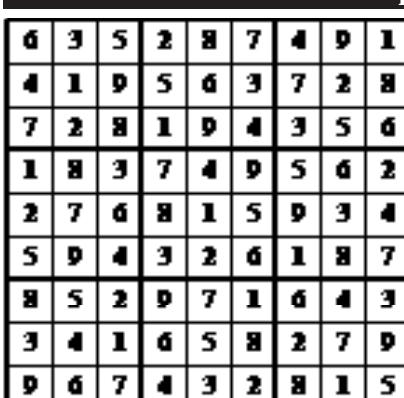
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ACROSS

ACROSS	DOWN
1. Seaweed	1. Retained
5. Solidifies	2. Greek deity
9. Mixes	3. Speak imperfectly
14. Cleveland's waterfront	4. Stroke lovingly
15. Three musicians	5. Blizzard
16. Confess (2 wds.)	6. "Sesame Street" character
17. Delayed	7. Tethered
19. Home of the Dolphins	8. Instant lawn
20. 1/3 TBSP	9. Unspecified person
21. Desertlike	10. Identical sibling
22. Beatle John ____	11. Ridiculous
23. Summit	12. Hearsay
24. Spanish waterway	13. Backbone
25. Poetic "before"	18. Trotter's kin
26. ____ couture	22. Hear
29. Common contraction	23. Repented
31. Movie stars	24. Speak wildly
33. Aardvark	26. Tresses
37. Islamic nation	27. Land measure
38. A la ____	28. Nevada neighbor
40. Floor piece	29. Sheik's wives
41. Practice a performance	30. Spuds
43. Sewing item	32. TV part
45. Nighttime vision	34. Ocean movement
46. Deep fear	35. She, in Valencia
47. NBC's rival	36. Wind instrument
50. Congressman (abbr.)	39. Urgent acronym
51. Nail polish shades	42. Put in order
53. President Ronald ____	44. ____ Murphy of "Shrek"
55. Artist Salvador ____	47. Collision
56. Chem., e.g.	48. Southern beauty
59. Edgar ____ Poe	49. Mixed greens
60. Weed with yellow flowers	51. Scope
62. Street talk	52. Church official
63. Goad	54. Group of crooks
64. Actor ____ Baldwin	55. Be bold
65. Bushy fence	56. Grain tower
66. Gentle animal	57. Female student
67. Jedi master	58. Ancient Peruvian
	60. Defective bomb
	61. Place

## Last week's puzzle solutions

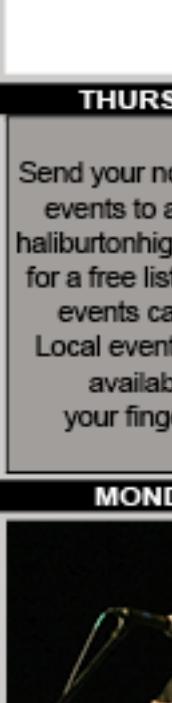


## **FUN FACT:**

The reason firehouses have circular stairways is from the days of yore when the engines were pulled by horses. The horses were stabled on the ground floor and figured out how to walk up straight staircases.

		1	5					
4			3		8			2
	7	3			1			6
1	6	4						
	5		4		3		6	
						5	4	9
6			8			7	1	
3			1		4			5
					6	8		

## DECEMBER 2013 EVENTS CALENDAR

THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Community Care Christmas lunch – Minden Lion's Hall, 2 p.m. RSVP by November 29.	Rotary Christmas FREE SKATING PARTY – A.J. LaRue Arena, Haliburton, 5-8 p.m.	Friends of the Haliburton County Library Christmas Sale – Haliburton Library, 10-3 p.m. Annual Cookie Walk – Haliburton United Church, 10-12 p.m. Bring your own containers to fill, \$4.50 per dozen. Christmas Craft Sale – Lloyd Watson Centre, 9-2 p.m.	Country Music Jamboree – S.G. Nesbitt Arena, 1-5 p.m.
Minden Sparks and Brownies meeting, 6-7:30 p.m.	Cribbage - (every Friday) - Community Care @ 1 p.m., 705-457-2941.		White Gift Sunday – Haliburton United Church, 11:15 a.m.
Pickleball – Haliburton Highlands Secondary School gym, 7-8:45 p.m. \$4 and must have clean, indoor court or running shoes.			
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>
	Minden Guides and Pathfinders meeting, 6:30-8 p.m.  Contract Bridge – Minden United Church, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. Contact 705-286-1305.  Euchre – West Guelph Community Centre, 7 p.m.	HHSS and JDHES presents "Airline" – Northern Lights Pavilion, 7 p.m.  Old Fashioned Christmas Carol Sing-a-long – Lochlin United Church, 7:30 p.m.	Send your not for profit events to <a href="mailto:ashley@haliburtonhighlander.ca">ashley@haliburtonhighlander.ca</a> for a free listing in our events calendar. Local events listings available at your finger tips!
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>MONDAY</b>	
Community Care Christmas lunch – Wilberforce Legion, 12-2 p.m. RSVP by December 6.	Wilberforce Santa Claus Parade – starting at Wilberforce school and ending the Lloyd Watson Centre, 12:30 p.m. Followed by a party with Santa inside the Community Centre.		
<b>SATURDAY</b>			
YesterYule Yummies Bake Sale - Twelve Mile Lake Historical Church - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.			
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>		

WHAT'S GOING ON AT YOUR LOCAL LEGION NOVEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup> - DECEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

Haliburton Branch (705-457-2571) General meeting, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Ladies Auxiliary meeting, last Thursday of month, 1 p.m. Meat draw, Friday, 4:30 p.m. 50/50 draw, Saturday, 4 p.m. Breakfast, 2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday, 9:30-1 p.m. Bid Euchre, Wednesday, 1 p.m. Bingo, Wednesday, 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome!	Minden Branch (705-286-4541) Lunch menu, Monday to Friday, 12-2 p.m. Cribbage, Saturday, 1-3 p.m. Seniors "B-d" Euchre, Tuesday, 1 p.m. Meat Draw, Wednesday, lunchtime Ladies Darts, Thursday, 1 p.m. Euchre, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Fish/Wings & Chips, Friday, 5-7 p.m. Mixed darts, Friday, 7:30 p.m. NFL Sports Day, Sunday, 12-5 p.m.	Wilberforce Branch (705-448-2221) Pool, Friday, 1:30 p.m. Jam session, Friday, 7 p.m. Everyone welcome! Meat draw, Saturday, 2 p.m. Pancake & sausage breakfast, Sunday, 8-11 a.m. Bid Euchre, Monday, 7 p.m. General meeting, Tuesday, 7 p.m. Fun darts, Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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all the  
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Chris &  
Michelle Smolarz\*  
705-457-2414 ext 22



2315 LOOP ROAD \$122,000

- Spectacular 3 bedroom town home, walking distance to school and the lake.
- View of Duck Lake from the living room.
- Updated high efficiency oil furnace, most of the windows replaced, deck off dining room overlooks a large back yard.
- Public dock and boat launch across the road.



NORTH SHORE RD ACREAGE \$25,000

- 1.28 acre building lot with 480' of frontage on a municipally maintained year round road.
- Well suited for privacy with several possible building locations.
- Minutes from public access to Maple Lake (3 lake chain).
- 15 min. drive to town and only 15 hrs. to Toronto.



HIGHWAY 35 \$27,500

- Building lot located right in Norland - close to all amenities and many trails and lakes.



CENTURY HOME & ACREAGE \$139,900

- 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1560 sq ft of living space
- 3.34 acres, level land
- Detached single insulated garage
- Drilled well, septic
- Year round municipal road



Lindsay Elder\*\*  
705-286-1234 ext 223



Lorri Roberts\*  
705-457-2414 ext 43



FABULOUS COUNTRY HOME \$450,000

- 3+ bedroom, 2.5 bath, 3928 sq ft living space
- Close to beaches, skiing, fine dining
- Sunroom, hardwood floors, games room
- Lower level walkout to gorgeous yard
- Many recent upgrades, year round comfort



YEAR ROUND FUN \$289,000

- Cozy cottage with big lake view
- Wood free swimming, miles of boating
- Mature treed lot
- Decking, dock, utility shed
- Great opportunity, 2.5 hours from the GTA



GOODERHAM LAKE \$328,000

- Lovely 4 season brick bungalow with 180 ft. of wonderful lake frontage across the road on a very level lot and nice shoreline and great swimming location on Gooderham Lake
- 3 bedrooms, large eat-in kitchen, living room with French doors and high ceilings, partially finished basement and attached garage



STARTER HOME \$99,900

- Year round brick bungalow with well and septic
- Recently renovated
- Great retirement or starter home
- A short walk to the Municipal Beach and the town of Gooderham



Cathy Bain\*  
705-286-1234 ext 224



Susan  
Johnson\*  
705-457-2414 x 44



GULL RIVER \$199,900

- 2 bedroom four season cottage
- Private level south exposure lot
- Newly renovated, new dock
- Single detached garage
- Boating to Gull Lake



GREAT FAMILY HOME \$179,900

- 3 bedroom, 1 bath brick bungalow
- Single detached garage
- Ample parking
- Well treed lot
- Close to Minden and Halls Lake



BEAUTIFUL LOG HOME \$339,900

- 4 bedroom, 1.5 bath, 2072 sq ft
- 2 propane fireplaces, hot tub room
- Above ground pool with decking
- Oversized double garage
- A must see! Available immediately.



CUSTOM WATERFRONT HOME \$499,900

- Great swimming and boating
- Year round private escape
- 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths
- 3 walk-outs to covered deck
- AC, Jacuzzi, hardwood floors



Marcia Bell\*  
705-457-2414 ext 27



Luba Cargill\*\*  
705-286-1234 ext 252



4 SEASON HOME \$349,900

- 2000 sq. ft. home/cottage
- 160 ft. waterfront on spring fed lake
- Convenient 2 hour drive of the GTA
- Expansive southern view
- Close to Minden and all amenities



GREAT VALUE \$109,000

- Home for the family just to take for the holidays!
- Spacious living/dining room with wood stove, hardwood floors.
- Lots of space for everyone with four bedrooms, two sitting rooms and two bathrooms.
- Main floor laundry. Only about 20 minutes to Bancroft.
- Bring your boat.



KOSHLONG LAKE \$699,000

- Extremely private custom waterfront home
- Spacious with many extra features
- Towering pines, rock shelf shoreline, great swimming
- Extensive decking
- Year round road close to Haliburton Village



GLAMOR LAKE RD \$38,900

- 1 km to swimming and boat launch at Glamor Lake
- Fairly level
- On municipal road
- Hydro at road



Larry Hussey\*  
705-457-2414 ext 23



Anthony  
van Lieshout\*\*\*  
705-457-2414 x 27



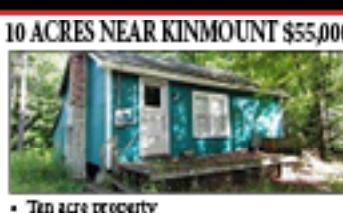
4 SEASON RETREAT \$439,900

- 3 bedroom, 1.5 baths, 1218 sq ft
- 231 ft. waterfront, 2.16 acre
- Master bedroom with walkout to deck
- Pine floors, trim, doors, central air
- Large lakeside deck & deck areas



CUSTOM WATERFRONT HOME \$749,900

- 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 3038 sq ft living space
- 107 ft sand frontage, 0.53 acres
- 22 ft pine ceilings, stone fireplace
- Floor to ceiling windows, custom kitchen
- Stunning expansive southern view



10 ACRES NEAR KINMOUNT \$55,000

- Ten acre property
- Includes a 20' X 30' cabin
- Electricity and septic system installed (no water)
- Crown land nearby
- The perfect hunt camp!



ACRES + GRAVEL PIT \$199,000

- 155 acre property, very private
- Includes 66 acre Class B gravel pit
- Licence fully transferrable
- Close to village of Kinmount
- Pasture area, well treed, large pond



Diane  
Knupp\*  
705-488-3077



Chris James\*  
705-286-1234 ext 222



DON'T MISS OUT! \$285,000

- 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2016 sq ft living space
- Access to swimming, boating, fishing
- Open concept with new windows
- New kitchen door, new bathrooms
- Artesian well with crystal clear water



ABSOLUTE STUNNER \$289,000

- 2 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2200 sq ft living space
- Almost 400 ft river front, 2.85 acre
- Walk-out to huge deck, lower level screen porch
- 9 year new Royal Home, open concept
- Year round access, endless possibilities



CUSTOM BUILT! \$559,900

- 2552 square feet of luxury living
- 3+2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms
- Walk-out to fully finished basement
- Extensive upper and lower decking
- Fully furnished and ready to enjoy!



SPECTACULAR KUSHOG LAKE! \$499,900

- 2 lake chain for lots of boating
- Clean shoreline, expansive views
- Over 2,000 square feet of luxury living
- Amazing guest cabin
- Attached and detached garages



Chris James\*  
705-286-1234 ext 222